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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/700,795	0,795 QUIACHON ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	D. Jacob Davis	3733	
The MAILING DATE of this communication appearance All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT R of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313	(OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this a or other appropriate communicati IGHTS. This application is subject	application. If not included ion will be mailed in due co	l ourse. <b>THIS</b>
1. X This communication is responsive to an amendment filed in	<u> March 15, 2006</u> .		
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 21 and 23-30.	,		
3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  a) All b) Some* c) None of the:  1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No.  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  **Certified copies not received:  Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.  4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.  5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.  (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached  1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date  (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date  Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).  6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.			
Attachment(s)  1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/Paper No./Mail Date  4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material	6. ☐ Interview Summ Paper No./Mail /08), 7. ☑ Examiner's Ame	Date .	
	EDUA SUPERVISOI	RIO C ROBERT RY PATENT EXAMINER	ł

## **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with John V. Hanley on May 23, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 21, line 3, "a first leg" has been changed to -- a first tubular leg --;

Claim 21, line 3, " a second leg" has been changed to -- a second tubular leg --;

Claim 21, line 7, after "a terminal end portion" include -- located on a free end of the first leg, --;

Claim 22, line 1, "claim 22" has been changed to -- claim 21 --.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art fails to disclose all of the limitations of the claims including, "Wherein the first leg further includes a terminal end portion located on a free end of the first tubular leg, the terminal end portion lacking an external profile characterized by peaks and valleys."

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

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accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to D. Jacob Davis whose telephone number is (571) 272-4693. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eduardo C. Robert can be reached on (571) 272-4719. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

DJD

EDUARBOYC/HOBERT SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER